

0202581208

AA-258

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Anne Arundel	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
St. James Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Old Herring Creek; St. James, Lothian

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Maryland Route 2 just north of Maryland Route 258

CITY OR TOWN:
Lothian

STATE: Maryland 20820 CODE: 24 COUNTY: Anne Arundel CODE: 003

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
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4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Rector, Vestry, and Wardens of St. James Parish

STREET AND NUMBER:
c/o Rector, Rev. Benjamin Narbeth, Box 215

CITY OR TOWN: Lothian STATE: Maryland 20820 CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Anne Arundel County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Church Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland 21401 CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland 21401 CODE: 24

[see continuation sheet]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland	COUNTY: Anne Arundel	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. James Church is located on the east side of Maryland Route 2, just north of the intersection of Maryland Route 2 and Maryland Route 258.

St. James, Lothian, is a nearly square, rectangular building of all-header brick. Above the simple wood box-cornice is a hip roof with a very slight bell-cast to it. There is a simple water table of projecting brick at the level of the side window sills. There are four round-top windows on each side of the nave, six of which are filled with stained glass (later memorials). Stained glass also fills the two round-top windows in the east wall. On the south side, there is an open archway porch with a similar bell-cast roof which was added in 1939. To the rear (southeast), there is a recent brick addition. Adjacent to this is an open arched bell tower post. The south and west entrance doors are divided vertically and are topped by flat elliptical fanlights with radiating muntins.

The interior has a coved ceiling, box pews, a "Gothick" altar rail, and Decalogue tablets from the early eighteenth century. Except for an occasional memorial tablet, the walls are plain.

There is a recent, Colonial Revival parish house to the east of the church.

Built on the site of two earlier churches, St. James, Lothian, was begun in 1763 by a parish which had occupied this site since its establishment as one of thirty Anglican parishes laid out in 1692. It is not unlike contemporaneous Episcopal churches in Virginia, such as Pohick Church or Christ Church, Alexandria, with the hip roof and simple rectangular plan. In its large, round-headed windows, two with fifteen over fifteen sashes and clear panes, it shows some stylistic sophistication as opposed to the severe Anglican churches of Southern Maryland, e.g., St. George's, Valley Lee, 1799. St. James reflects the influence of James Gibbs on American church architecture of that time. These are the same kind of windows employed by Peter Harrison in King's Chapel, Boston, 1749, and at Christ Church, Cambridge, 1763. Stylistically, St. James could have taken on a spire similar to the one added to Christ Church in Alexandria (early nineteenth century).

The church is surrounded by a burial ground. It contains some seventeenth century graves, notably those of Christopher Birkhead and his wife, her stone of 1665 "being the oldest known in Maryland."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☒ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1763

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St. James Church stands on the site of two earlier churches which occupied the identical location of the first church building, erected at the time of the establishment of the original thirty Anglican parishes. The present (1972) structure dates from 1763. It replaced a 1698 church building that had replaced the first St. James Church, built before 1692.

One of the oldest known tombstones in the State of Maryland (1665) is located in the St. James Church cemetery. The grave of Ann Birkhead, it probably pre-dates the erection of the first church.

Mason Locke Weems (1759-1825), the biographer of George Washington, was born in St. James Parish, Maryland, and educated for the priesthood in London, England. He was the first minister to serve St. James Church who did not take an oath of allegiance to England at his ordination (1784). Weems served several other Episcopal churches before he abandoned the profession in 1794 to become a book salesman and author. He is best known for his Life and Memorable Actions of George Washington, which remains one of the major early nineteenth century biographies of Washington. The story of young George chopping down the cherry tree and subsequently becoming the epitome of truth, first appeared in the fifth edition of Weems' biography.

Thomas John Claggett (1793-1816), a contemporary of Mason Locke Weems, was also a rector of St. James Church. Educated in Calvert County, Maryland, and at the College of New Jersey (Princeton University), Claggett was ordained by the Bishop of London in 1767. He became the first Bishop of Maryland in 1792.

Another rector of St. James Parish was Henry Hall (1676-1722), who came to the parish in 1698. He is remembered as a colorful figure. When a group of Anne Arundel County Quakers refused to pay the required tithes to the Church of England for the support of the rector of St. James, Hall rode to the Galesville Friends' Meeting and threatened to horsewhip the Quakers if they did not pay immediately. Hall's body is buried in the chancel of St. James Church.

[see continuation sheet]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Forman, Henry Chandlee. Tidewater Maryland, Architecture and Gardens. New York: Bonanza Books, 1956. p. 192.

Hall, Thomas John. The Hall Family of West River and Kindred Families. Denton, Maryland: Rue Publishing, 1941.

Hall, Thomas John. A History of St. James Parish. n.p., n.d.

[see continuation sheet]

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE			
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds			
NW	38° 47.30.5"	76° 36.05"			
NE	38° 47.30.5"	76° 35.45"			
SE	38° 47.14.5"	76° 35.45"			
SW	38° 47.14.5"	76° 36.05"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 64 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: William Morgan, Field Surveyor, and Nancy Miller, Historian		
ORGANIZATION Maryland Historical Trust	DATE July 13, 1972	
STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road		
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE Maryland 21401	CODE 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

Orlando Ridout IV
Orlando Ridout IV

Title

State Liaison Officer for Maryland

Date

July 17, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Anne Arundel	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

St. James Church

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS, continued

Historic American Buildings Survey

1969 national x

Library of Congress

Washington, D. C. code 11

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

The tablets on St. James' altar, bearing the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, were given by Mrs. William Locke in 1723. Locke, himself, gave a silver baptismal basin dated 1732. The silver alms basin was donated by the widow of the Reverend Henry Hall in 1724. England's Queen Anne gave the church bell in 1706.

St. James continues as a flourishing parish in 1972. All the records are intact from 1692, except for the Parish Register from 1855 to 1890, which was burned in the rectory fire of 1900. The forty-acre glebe, willed to the parish in 1700 by Mr. and Mrs. James Rigbie, is under active cultivation. A recently initiated project is an eighteenth-century herb garden.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, continued

Kelly, J. Reany. Notes on Anne Arundel County Buildings.
December 1968. Files of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Ridgely, Helen West. The Old Brick Churches of Maryland. New
York: Anson D. F. Randolph, 1894.

Rose, Harold Wickliffe. The Colonial Houses of Worship in
America. Philadelphia: Hastings Book, 1963. p. 171.

Warfield, J. D. The Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Coun-
ties, Maryland . . . Reprint. Baltimore: Regional
Publishing, 1967.

[continued]

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Anne Arundel	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

St. James Church

9. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, continued

Wilstach, Paul. Tidewater Maryland. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1931.

Columbia Encyclopedia, Third Edition. New York: Columbia University Press, 1967.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Anne Arundel	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

AA-258

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: St. James Church			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Old Herring Creek; St. James Lothian			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Maryland Route 2 just north of Maryland Route 258			
CITY OR TOWN: Lothian			
STATE: Maryland	CODE 24	COUNTY: Anne Arundel	CODE 003
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: William Morgan			
DATE OF PHOTO: June 1969			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Maryland Historical Trust, 2525 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. west elevation			



Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Anne Arundel	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: St. James Church			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Old Herring Creek, St. James Lothian			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Maryland Route 2 just north of Maryland Route 258			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Lothian			
STATE:	CODE:	COUNTY:	CODE:
Maryland	24	Anne Arundel	003
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute map; Deale Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:24 000			
DATE: 1957			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



A.A.-258 St. James Church

W.D.M. 6/69

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
THE SHAW HOUSE
21 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
THE SHAW HOUSE
21 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401



St James Epsin Church
Herring Creek

AA - ~~VII~~ - 813
VII

AA-258

West elevation

acc to MD

June 1969 Wm Morgan